Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SCUL, PL

SUBJECT: APOLLO-SOYUZ FLIGHT SUPPORT

REF: WARSAW 1845

1. THE APOLLO-SOYUZ FLIGHT CONTINUES TO ELICIT STRONG MEDIA AND PUBLIC INTEREST IN POLAND. AS DISCUSSED REFTEL, WE BELIEVE THAT THE EVENT CREATES A SPECIAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS IMPERATIVE FOR US IN THIS COUNTRY. THE POLES REGARD ASTP AS A SYMBOL OF DETENTE WHICH HELPS TO LEGITIMIZE VIS-A-VIS THE USSR THEIR EVEN STRONGER IMPULSES TO EXPAND RELATIONS WITH THE WEST, ESPECIALLY THE UNITED STATES. WE ALREADY HAVE BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH POLISH MEDIA AND INSTITUTIONS DURING THE PRE-FLIGHT PERIOD:

A. DISTRIBUTION OF NASA AND IPS FURNISHED PHOTOS AND BACKGROUND MATERIALS TO POLISH MEDIA. TWENTY-EIGHT SPECIFIC PRESS REQUESTS HAVE SERVICED THUS FAR.

B. DISTRIBUTION TO POLISH MEDIA NATION WIDE OF SPECIAL ASTP RELEASES BASED ON NASA MATERIALS.

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C. LOAN OF A SMALL APOLLO-SOYUZ MODEL WHICH WILL BE

CENTRAL FOCUS OF SPECIAL ORIGINAL COVERAGE BY POLISH TV ON THE ASTP. IMV FILM CLIPS AND "APOLLO-SOYUZ" AND "AGE OF MAN IN SPACE" WILL BE INCORPORATED IN ASTP COVERAGE.

D. COOPERATION WITH THE TECHNICAL MUSEUM IN DEVELOPING THE MAJOR POLISH EXHIBIT, "INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN SPACE", NOW SCHEDULED TO OPEN ON JULY 14.

2. TO AUGMENT OUR SUPPORT OF THE APPOLLO-SOYUZ FLIGHT, WE PROPOSE:

A. FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF THE ASTP FLIGHT, WE COULD ARRANGE A ONE-DAY STOP BY A NASA REPRESENTATIVE NOW IN THE USSR DURING HIS RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES. THIS OFFICIAL COULD ADDRESS MEDIA AND SCIENTIFIC AUDIENCES TO DISCUSS THE ASTP AND ALSO COULD BE PROGRAMMED AT THE TECHNICAL MUSEUM EXHIBIT. POST WOULD BE PREPARED TO PAY DIVERSIONARY TRAVEL AND PER DIEM. ADVISE.

B. EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT IPS FURNISH RPO/VIENNA WITH 35MM TRANSPARENCIES OF FULL PHOTO COVERAGE OF ASTP. THIS MATERIAL, COMBINED WITH VISUALS ALREADY SENT TO RPO ON PRE-FLIGHT EVENTS, WILL BE BASIS FOR A SMALL PHOTO EXHIBIT TO ACCOMPANY THE 1/25 APOLLO-SOYUZ MODEL WHICH THE POST HAS PURCHASED. DAVIES

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